



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application of: Takenori IDEHARA  
 For: INPUT-OUTPUT APPARATUS SELECTING  
 METHOD FOR NETWORK SYSTEM  
 U.S. Serial No. 09/082,127  
 Filed: May 20, 1998  
 Group Art Unit: 2724  
 Examiner: King Y. Poon

Assistant Director  
 for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

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 Technology Center 2600

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on

JANUARY 18, 2001

Date of Deposit

JAMES W. WILLIAMS

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Signature

JANUARY 18, 2001

Date of Signature

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant wishes to bring the following item to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of the item is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

(1) Kuwamoto et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,353,399, issued October 4, 1994.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The reference cited above is not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the item listed above is properly citable against the above-identified application.

Application Serial No. 09/082,127

Applicant considers the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited document.

As this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the first Office Action, but before the mailing date of either a final Office Action under § 1.113, or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, the required fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) for the submission of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement should be charged to Sidley & Austin's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260. The Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,



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January 18, 2001